

Serial No. 10/775,258

Response to Office Action dated September 27, 2006

Tom Campbell - Inventor

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for centralized transfer of cargo to and from rail cars that includes a palletized cargo container, comprising:

a base;

two side walls extending upward from said base;

a platform secured to said side walls; and,

a pneumatically retractable conveyor positioned in the floor of the rail car wherein the palletized cargo container is selectably movable on said pneumatically retractable conveyor.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the base of the palletized cargo container includes a container conveyor device positioned thereon.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said rail cars are refrigerated rail cars.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 3, wherein the base is configured to support the palletized cargo container off the floor of the rail car, thus providing a first air plenum between the floor of the rail car and the base.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4, wherein the platform of the palletized container is configured to support a pallet thereon while providing a second air plenum between platform and the supported pallet.

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Deleted: comprising

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a first railway to accommodate the rail cars;
a staging area; and 1
a second railway positioned between the first railway and the staging area to accommodate a movable transfer dock, 1

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an open top, wherein the rail car has a

Deleted: means on

Deleted: thereof;

Deleted: means, and wherein the cargo is transferred between the staging area and the rail cars via the movable transfer dock

Deleted: staging area is a truck loading and unloading zone

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Deleted: movable transfer dock includes a means for positioning the movable transfer dock

Deleted: 1 further comprising a means for temporarily securing the movable transfer dock to at least one of the rail cars

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6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, wherein the palletized cargo container is configured to be secured in the rail car via the retraction of the conveyor positioned in the floor of the rail car, such that the base of the palletized container frictionally engages the floor of the rail car.

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Deleted: movable transfer dock further comprises conveyor means for facilitating the movement of cargo

7. (Cancelled) The system of claim 1 wherein the movable transfer dock is a partially enclosed unit comprising a plurality of doors for receiving and depositing cargo.

8. (Cancelled) The system of claim 7 wherein the movable transfer dock further comprises expandable curtain seals for sealing the area between at least one door and the rail cars.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein one or more of the rail cars are boxcars.

10. (Currently Amended) A cargo container system comprising:

a refrigerated rail car having a retractable conveyor positioned in the floor thereof;

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a cargo container specifically adapted for shipping refrigerated cargo in the refrigerated rail car, comprising:

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a base;

two side walls extending upward from said base;

a platform secured to said side walls; and

an open top; wherein the refrigerated rail car has a conveyor means on the floor thereof; and wherein the palletized cargo container is movable on said retractable conveyor,

Deleted: means